

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 NSF-04 L-03 EB-11 COME-00 AEC-11

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4481

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 5329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, TGEN, GT

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY,
SUB-GROUP II-REPORT NO. 4

1. THURSDAY SPENT ENTIRELY IN DRAFTING/WORKING SESSIONS WITHOUT COVENING OF THE PLENARY GROUP. THE GROUP ATTEMPTING TO COALESCE THE LATIN IDEAS TABLED EARLIER, DESIGNATED AS COMMISSION A, LABORED MIGHTILY UNTIL MID-AFTERNOON WITH OCCASIONAL USDEL WITHDRAWALS TO PERMIT THE LATINS TO CAUCUS. THE PRODUCT STILL FELL FAR SHORT IN OUR VIEW OF AN ADEQUATE TREATMENT OF THE SUBJECT FOR THE SUB-GROUP. IT CONTAINED A FEW CONSTRUCTIVE APPROPRIATE ITEMS, SOME REFERRALS OF POSSIBLE MECHANISMS TO SG IV, AND A LARGE BODY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS ON LA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OR ACTION FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN STATES. ONE OF THE LATTER (SUGGESTED BY MEXICO), TO USE THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE AS A PURCHASER OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES TO FAVOR SUCH ITEMS DEVELOPED LOCALLY, COULD NOT BE ENDORSED BY THE USDEL. THE LANGUAGE WAS MODIFIED TO MAKE CLEAR IT WAS A RECOMMENDATION OF THE LATIN DELEGATIONS ONLY.

2. USDEL PARTICIPATED IN THE REVIEW BY COMMISSION A OF ITS DOCUMENT AND MADE SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGES WHICH WERE ACCEPTED. DOCUMENT CONTAINED A PARAGRAPH INTRODUCED BY BRAZIL REP ON QUANTIFYING COMMITMENTS TO FINANCING LA INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ON BASIS OF PERCENTAGE OF NATIONAL R&D EXPENDITURES. USDEL FOUND THIS UNACCEPTABLE AND PROPOSED
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SEVERAL ALTERNATIVES WHICH WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY LATINS.

COMPROMISE AGAIN REACHED ONLY BY IDENTIFYING SUGGESTION AS
EMANATING FROM LATIN REPS ONLY.

3. COMMISSION B MASSAGED REVISED USDEL DOCUMENT AND BOTH
WORKING GROUPS THEN AGREED ON A COMBINED TEXT FOR PRESENTATION
TO PLENARY FRIDAY.

4. USDEL ATTRIBUTES LESS THAN SATISFACTORY PRODUCT
OF SUBGROUP DELIBERATIONS AS PARTLY DUE TO INADQUATE FOCUS OF
LATIN DELEGATIONS PREPARATION FOR MEETING, KNOWLEDGE OF
TOTAL PICTURE, AND ACTIVITIES OF OTHER SUBGROUPS, AND PARTLY DUE
TO INADEQUACIES OF REPRESENTATIVES THEMSELVES. NOT ONLY WERE
THEY CONFUSED ON BASIC THEME OF IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF MORE
DEVELOPED COUNTRY S/T POTENTIAL BUT PERSISTED IN RESTRICTING
INTEREST TO INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY RATHER THAN BROAD RANGE OF
LA PROBLEMS TO WHICH S/T MAY BE APPLIED.

5. IN VIEW OF ABOVE EXPERIENCE, RECOMMEND THAT USDEL TO
SG I BE PREPARED TO TABLE DOCUMENTS EARLY IN MEETING TO AID
IN FOCUSING DISCUSSIONS.
ANDREWS

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